

Press Release



John Hoeven, Governor
Douglass A. Prchal, Director

1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 3
Bismarck, ND 58503-0649

Phone 701-328-5357

Fax 701-328-5363

E-mail parkrec@state.nd.us
www.NDparks.com

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For more information, contact Donna Schouweiler, 328-5358

State Parks Department announces new staff, transfers

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department has recently filled vacated staff positions at a number of state parks and at its Bismarck office.

- ✓ **Allen Larsen** has been named the new manager at Lewis and Clark State Park, Williston. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, he most recently worked for the Crow Wing County Parks in Brainerd, MN, and with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
- ✓ New manager of Cross Ranch State Park, Center, is **Dave Leite**. Leite, who has an environmental science degree from Minot State University, had served as ranger at Lake Sakakawea State Park for the past 18 years.
- ✓ **Keith Orth**, former ranger at Beaver Lake State Park, is the new ranger at Lake Sakakawea State Park, Pick City. Originally from the Minot area, he is a graduate of Minot State University, and has been with the department for ten years.
- ✓ Former Cross Ranch State Park manager **Dennis Clark** is the new ranger at Icelandic State Park, Cavalier. A Valley City State University graduate, he is a 20-year state parks employee and has also worked at Ft. Ransom and Beaver Lake.
- ✓ **Amy Zachmeier** has been hired as the interpretive coordinator at Cross Ranch State Park. She is a recent graduate of NDSU in natural resource management and has worked as a seasonal employee at Theodore Roosevelt National Park.
- ✓ Former Cross Ranch interpretive coordinator **Arik Spencer** has joined the Bismarck staff as trails and scenic byways coordinator. The Bismarck native graduated this spring with a management degree from the University of Mary, Bismarck.
- ✓ **Kim Karch**, Mandan, has been named ranger at Sully Creek State Recreation Area. She worked last summer as a seasonal ranger at Little Missouri State Park, Killdeer. The department has resumed management and supervision of this small, 80-acre primitive park near Medora.
- ✓ In the Bismarck office, **Jason Johnston** has been hired as project and maintenance coordinator. He holds an engineering degree from North Dakota State University, and most recently worked in project management in Portsmouth, VA.